

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants :Yasuhiro SHIINA et al. **Confirmation No. : 4957**

Appl. No. : 10/573,324 Group Art Unit : 1645
(National Stage of PCT/JP2004/014457)

I.A. Filed: September 24, 2004 Examiner : Oluwatosin A. OGUNBIYI

For : METHOD OF DETECTING OR DIFFERENTIATING RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS AND METHOD OF DETERMINING STAGE OF DISEASE OR DEGREE OF DYSFUNCTION WITH REGARD TO RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§ 1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were previously filed on June 26, 2006 and July 24, 2006, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner a Japanese Office Action dated March 17, 2009 and issued in connection with Japanese Patent Application No. 2005-514295. The Japanese Examiner cites:

WO 03/060465 A1, July 24, 2003

Copies of the above document and the Japanese Office Action for Japanese Application No. 2005-514295 are enclosed together with a completed Form PTO-1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the attached material and indicate such consideration by initialing the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and returning a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application, and thus, no fee is necessary to ensure consideration of this statement. However, if an Office Action has issued and is crossing in the mail with this statement, the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted materials.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Yasuhiko SHIINA et al.


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May 7, 2009
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